

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 202344

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO RATIONALIZATION STUDY (U)

REF: USNATO 4710

1.IN PREPARATION FOR EWG CONSIDERATION OF RATIONALIZATION,
WE WISH TO IDENTIFY, IN BROAD TERMS, WHAT DIRECTION US
EFFORTS SHOULD FOLLOW. YOUR COMMENTS, BASED ON FIRST-
HAND KNOWLEDGE OF THE SITUATION IN THE EWG, WOULD BE
APPRECIATED.

2. BY DECEMBER, WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE A COMMON DEFINITION
OF RATIONALIZATION AND TO HAVE CARRIED OUT CONSIDERABLE
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SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON THE MATRIX APPROACH TO

RATIONALIZATION. WE EXPECT THAT AT THE INITIAL EWG MEETINGS, NATIONS WILL PRESENT DETAILED COMMENTS AND REFINED FIGURES WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE PROPOSED US MATRIX. WE HOPE TO SEE THE US MATRIX ACCEPTED TO THE POINT WHERE IT BECOMES THE NATO RATIONALIZATION MATRIX. DURING THESE DISCUSSIONS IT SEEMS INEVITABLE THAT ALTERNATIVE OR NEW FUNCTIONAL AREAS WILL BE PROPOSED. WE SEE NEW PROPOSALS AS A CONSTRUCTIVE PART OF THE EWG'S CONSIDERATION OF THE MATRIX AND ARE AMENABLE TO THEM SO LONG AS THEY ARE ADEQUATELY SUPPORTED BY FINANCIAL AND MANPOWER FIGURES AND DO NOT UNDERMINE THE BASIC

INTENT OF THE US MATRIX. WE STAND READY TO ASSIST MISSION IN EVALUATING ANY NEW FIGURES OR PROPOSALS WHICH MAY BE PUT FORWARD.

3. IDEALLY, AFTER AN AGREED DEFINITION AND NATO MATRIX HAVE BEEN ADOPTED, THE EWG SHOULD ASSIGN SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO EXISTING NATO COMMITTEES AND AGENCIES RELATED TO THE SUBJECT AREA IN QUESTION, OR AD HOC GROUPS OF NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES FORMED TO ADDRESS SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. HOWEVER, IF DIFFICULTIES DEVELOP IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON A COMMON DEFINITION OR NATO MATRIX EWG SHOULD NOT DELAY REFERRAL OF SPECIFIC AREAS TO SUBGROUPS SO LONG AS THESE STUDIES MAINTAIN THE MATRIX APPROACH WHERE EACH COUNTRY'S GAINS AND LOSSES ARE BALANCED OUT. IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT ECONOMIC GAINS AND LOSSES FOR EACH NATION CAN BE BALANCED IF ONLY A FEW ITEMS ARE ADDRESSED AT A TIME. UNLESS THE GAINS AND LOSSES ARE EQUITABLE FOR EACH NATION, WE BELIEVE THE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS IN RATIONALIZATION WILL BE GREATLY DIMINISHED. SUCH STUDIES SHOULD ALSO HAVE TIME LIMITS DESIGNATED FOR PRODUCING RESULTS.

4. WE REGRET THAT WE ARE UNABLE AT THIS TIME TO COMPLY WITH MISSION'S REQUEST FOR A WIDER LIST OF CONSOLIDATED TRAINING POSSIBILITIES BACKED UP BY SUPPORTING RATIONALE. SUCH A COMPILATION WOULD REQUIRE A LONG EXTENSIVE RESEARCH EFFORT WHICH WE ARE HESITANT TO UNDERTAKE BECAUSE WE HAVE VERY LIMITED DATA ON WHAT OTHER

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NATIONS SPEND FOR ANY PARTICULAR TRAINING EFFORT. THIS ASSUMES THAT THE INFORMATION NEEDED WOULD INCLUDE NOT MERELY A LISTING OF TRAINING FACILITIES WHICH MIGHT BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR A PARTICULAR TYPE OF TRAINING ACTIVITY (SUCH A LISTING OF US FACILITIES COULD READILY BE ASSEMBLED), BUT DETAILED COSTING, UTILIZATION, TRANSPORTATION AND MANPOWER FACTORS WHICH ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE FOR MULTINATIONAL UNITS.

THERE HAS BEEN A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF GROUNDWORK DONE
BY EURO NATO TRAIN ON THE SUBJECT OF IDENTIFYING
CONSOLIDATED TRAINING POSSIBILITIES AND THIS MAY BE AN
ALTERNATIVE SOURCE FOR INFORMATION. IF MESSON WISHES
US TO PURSUE THE MATTER FURTHER, WE WOULD BE WILLING
TO DISCUSS MORE SPECIFICALLY THE DESIRED DEGREE OF
SUPPORT AND THE STEPS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THIS END.

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